Amendments to the claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition formulated for topical administration to a patient in need thereof comprising a lipid fraction extracted from *Nigella sativa* L. seeds and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, wherein said lipid fraction ~~is primarily composed of unsaturated C18 fatty acids selected from the group consisting of linoleic acid, oleic acid, and linolenic acid~~comprises about 73 to about 92% by weight polyunsaturated fatty acids, further wherein said lipid fraction comprises an oil that is free of *Nigella sativa* L. solid fats.
2. (Previously Presented) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein said composition is formulated as an ointment, cream, gel, powder, balm, lotion, liquid, spray or aerosol or as the active ingredient of a transdermal patch.
3. (~~Previously Presented~~Currently Amended) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said *Nigella sativa* L. lipid fraction ~~comprises an oil derived from a *Nigella sativa* L. total lipid fraction, further wherein said oil is free of *Nigella sativa* L. solid fats~~is free of waxes, resins, tocopherols, triterpene aglycons, short chain fatty acids, and hydrocarbons.
4. (Original) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein the lipid fraction consists essentially of polyunsaturated fatty acids, saturated fatty acids, glyceryl esters, volatile oils and sterols.
5. (Original) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein the lipid fraction is present in an amount ranging from about 1 to about 20% by weight based on 100% by weight of the total composition.
6. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a pyogenic skin infection in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 6, wherein the pyogenic skin infection is selected from the group consisting of pyoderma, impetigo, folliculitis, eczema, an infected wound, an insect bite, a dermal injury, a leg ulcer and erythema.
8. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a bacterial infection in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
9. (Withdrawn) A method for healing a wound in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 9, wherein the wound is a diabetic leg ulcer.
11. (Withdrawn) A method for treating skin and soft tissue infections caused by gram-positive organisms or gram-negative bacilli in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
12. (Withdrawn) A method for treating cellulite in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
13. (Withdrawn) A method for treating a septic infection in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
14. (Withdrawn) A method of treating or preventing a vaginal disease or disorder in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 14, wherein the vaginal disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of vaginal moniliasis, vaginitis, vaginal discharge, vaginal itching, vaginal inflammation, candidiasis, vulvovaginitis, bacterial vaginitis, trichmonas vaginitis, cervicitis, vaginal irritation, pruritis, vaginal burning, atrophic vaginitis and a sexual transmitted disease.
16. (Withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing vaginal moniliasis in an immuno-compromised patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.
17. (Withdrawn) A method of treating a respiratory disease or disorder in a patient in need thereof comprising topically administering an effective amount of the topical composition of claim 1.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the respiratory disease or disorder is selected from the group consisting of bronchospasm, bronchoconstriction, anaphylaxis, pulmonary tuberculosis, an inflamed lung tissue, an inflamed mucous membrane, asthma, a respiratory tract inflammation, bronchitis, bronchial hyperactivity, a dry cough, bronchial congestion, a throat irritation, and an upper respiratory allergy.
19. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 17, wherein the topical composition comprises an evaporative chest rub.
20. (Currently Amended) The topical composition of claim ~~3~~1, wherein said oil results from evaporating and cooling a solvent-extracted *Nigella sativa* L. total lipid fraction, further wherein said oil is comprised of long chain fatty acids, volatile oils and sterols and is free from waxes, resins, tocopherols, triterpenes~~,~~ aglycons, short chain fatty acids, and hydrocarbons.
21. (Previously Presented) The topical composition of claim 20, wherein said oil comprises about 0.1 to about 1% volatile oils and about 1 to about 3% sterols.
22. (Previously Presented) The topical composition of claim 21, wherein said long chain fatty acids comprise fatty acid glyceryl esters.
23. (Previously Presented) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein said lipid fraction comprises about 51% to about 61% by weight linoleic acid.
24. (Previously Presented) The topical composition of claim 1, wherein said lipid fraction comprises about 20% to about 25% by weight oleic acid.